



# How to Protect Yourself from **Pick Pockets**:

- **Leave precious jewelry at home**, along with other valuables that you do not need to have with you. Do not bring anything you cannot bear to lose.
- **Pack as light as possible**. It is much easier to keep an eye on your stuff when you are carrying only one bag.
- **Make an effort to fit in**. The less you look like a tourist, the less likely you will be targeted.
- **Make copies of all important documents** before leave home, including passport and traveler's checks. Leave one copy at home with someone you trust, and bring the other copy with you, stored separately from the documents.
- **Wear a money belt** or pin your valuable into inside pockets of your clothing.
- **Split up your valuables**. Keep cash safely pinned into an inside pocket, credit cards in a different pocket or money belt, and so on. If something does happen, you stand a good chance of keeping at least some of your valuables.
- **Watch out for "tag-team" and distraction tactics**, in which one member of a team spills something on you or asks for directions, while the other steals your wallet or cuts your purse straps. Be aware of the people around you and follow your instincts.
- **Stay in well-populated, well-lit areas**. Do not take shortcuts down alleys, and do not walk alone at night. Talk to the locals about safety – ask them which areas they avoid and which areas become dangerous after dark.
- **Carry as little cash as possible**. Never pull a wad of cash out of your purse or wallet to pay for anything.
- **Avoid getting into confrontations** with would-be muggers or thieves; your safety is more important than your money. Report any problems to the local police (USAG-Chievres 068-27-5301; USAG-Brussels 027-71-9769; USAG-Schinnen 046-443-7555).

**SNAP!**



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